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Letter dated 31 October 2008 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).

In the light of events currently unfolding in the mission area, I would like to inform you of my intention to reappoint Lieutenant General Babacar Gaye (Senegal) as Interim Force Commander of MONUC, to replace Lieutenant General Vicente Diaz de Villegas who has resigned for personal reasons. The appointment of Lieutenant General Gaye is intended for a period of up to six months, to provide the MONUC force with the necessary leadership at this critical time and to allow for a regular appointment to be made in due course. As you are aware, he served in MONUC as Force Commander during the period from 23 March 2005 to 5 October 2008.

I would be grateful if you would bring this matter to the immediate attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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